

# DENSITY IS AT MOST THE SPREAD OF THE SQUARE

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I would like to thank Alice Leonhardt for the beautiful typing.  
Publication E56

## §1

**1.1 Claim.** Assume  $\mathbb{B}$  is an infinite Boolean Algebra and  $\lambda = d(\mathbb{B})$ . Then  $\mathfrak{s}(\mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B})$ , i.e.  $\mathfrak{s}(\text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})) \geq \lambda$  (if  $\lambda$  limit-obtained).

*Remark.* 1)  $\text{ul}(\mathbb{B})$  is the space of ultrafilters of  $\mathbb{B}$  a compact space with clopen base.  
 2)  $\mathfrak{s}(X)$  is  $\sup\{|Y| : Y \subseteq X \text{ is discrete } Y, \text{ same as } \text{des}(X)\}$ .  
 3) We meant to consider whether this works for compact Hausdorff spaces. But subsequently and independently Szentmiklóssy prove this.

*Proof.* Without loss of generality  $\lambda > \aleph_0$ . We choose  $(p_i^0, p_i^1, a_i)$  by induction on  $i < \lambda$  such that

- $\otimes$  (a)  $p_i^\ell$  is an ultrafilter of  $\mathbb{B}$  for  $\ell = 0, 1$
- (b)  $a_i \in p_i^1, a_i \notin p_i^0$ , i.e.  $(-a_i) \in p_i^1$
- (c) if  $j < i$  then  $a_j \in p_i^0 \Leftrightarrow a_j \in p_i^1$
- (d) if  $j < i$  then  $a_i \notin p_j^0, a_i \notin p_j^1$ .

So assume we have arrived to  $i$ . Let  $\mathbb{B}_i$  be the subalgebra of  $\mathbb{B}$  generated by  $\{a_j : j < i\}$ .

For every non-zero  $b \in \mathbb{B}_i$  choose an ultrafilter  $q_b^i$  of  $\mathbb{B}$  and for simplicity  $b = a_j \Rightarrow q_b^i = p_j^1$  and  $b = (-a_j) \Rightarrow q_b^i = p_j^0$  for  $j < i$ .

As  $d(\mathbb{B}) \geq \lambda$  clearly  $\{q_b^i : b \in \mathbb{B}_i \setminus \{0\}\}$  is not dense hence there is a non-zero  $a_i \in \mathbb{B}$  such that  $b \in \mathbb{B}_i \setminus \{0\} \Rightarrow a_i \notin q_b^i$  (i.e. a non-empty clopen set to which none of the points  $q_p^i$  belongs).

Now clearly  $b \in \mathbb{B}_i \setminus \{0\} \Rightarrow a_i \neq b$  (as  $b \in q_p^i$ ) hence  $a_i \notin \mathbb{B}_i$ . This implies that there is an ultrafilter  $q_i^*$  of  $\mathbb{B}_i$  such that

$$\circledast b \in q \Rightarrow a_i \cap b > 0 \wedge (-a_i) \cap b > 0.$$

[Why? As  $\{b_0 \cup b_1 : b_0, b_1 \in \mathbb{B}_2 \text{ and } b - 1 \cap a_i = 0_{\mathbb{B}} \text{ and } b_a - a_i = 0\}$  is a proper ideal of  $\mathbb{B}_i$  hence can be extended to an ultrafilter of  $\mathbb{B}_i$ .]

So there are ultrafilters  $p_i^0, p_i^1$  of  $\mathbb{B}$  such that

$$\circledast q_i^* \cup \{a_i\} \subseteq p_i^1 \text{ and } q_i^* \cup \{-a_i\} \subseteq p_i^0.$$

This is enough for the induction step.

Having carried the induction

- (a)  $p_i := (p_i^0, p_i^1) \in \text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})$
- (b)  $(-a_i) \times a_i$  is an open subset of  $\text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})$ .

Lastly,

- (c) if  $i < j < \lambda$  then  $p_j \notin (-a_i) \times a_i$  because  $(-a_i) \notin p_j^0$  or  $a_i \notin p_j^1$  as  $a_i \in \mathbb{B}_j$   
and  $p_j^0 \cap B_j = p_j^1 \cap \mathbb{B}_j$  by the choice of  $p_j^0, p_j^1$
- (d) if  $i < j < \lambda$  then  $p_i \notin (-a_j) \times a_j$  because  $p_i^1 \notin a_j$  by the choice of  $a_j$ .

So  $\langle (p_i, (-a_i) \times a_i) : i < \lambda \rangle$  exemplify  $\text{dis}(\text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})) \geq \lambda$  as required.